



## News Release

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &  
Thunder Basin National Grassland  
<http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>

**Contact:** Diann Ritschard, (970) 870-2187

### Local natural resource projects sought for funding

(Laramie, Wyo.) Jan. 19, 2011 -- Last fall the MedBow-Routt Resource Advisory Committee recommended more than \$400,000 in funding for projects that will benefit the Medicine Bow and Routt National Forests or nearby lands in Albany and Carbon counties in Wyoming, and Routt and Jackson counties in Colorado. The Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) is currently seeking new/updated project proposals for the next round of funding.

"We received 19 excellent proposals and were able to contribute funding to 10 of them. Most of them had several partners also contributing money," said RAC Chairman Jerry Paxton. "We will have about \$151,000 in 2010 funds to award this year. We're looking forward to getting another round of really good proposals."

Funding for projects that will enhance forest ecosystems or restore and improve land health and water quality is made available to the counties through the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act. Funds for projects approved last year were from 2008-2009. The RAC works closely with the Forest Service to recommend projects that will benefit Forest health, fish, wildlife, soils, watersheds and other resources; maintain roads, trails, and other infrastructure; or control noxious weeds.

The Forest Service is accepting applications on behalf of the RAC. Forms are available at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/mbr/advisorycommittee> or you may call Diann Ritschard at 970-870-2187, or email [dritschard@fs.fed.us](mailto:dritschard@fs.fed.us) for a proposal form or more information. Proposals are due Feb. 25, 2011.

Projects must be located on National Forest System Lands in Albany, Carbon, Routt and Jackson counties or on other nearby lands where the project will benefit natural resources on the National Forests. Projects can be completed by Forest Service personnel, through partnership agreements or by open-bid contracting with individuals and corporations.

The RAC will begin reviewing projects for possible funding in March. The public is welcome to attend RAC meetings. For more information about the MedBow-Routt RAC and upcoming meetings, visit <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/mbr/advisorycommittee>

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